years and thereafter @ US $ 4.875 million per annum.

(b) No, Sir. The cable operators, as ATN-Canada, Asisnet-U.K. & USA, Apna TV-U.K., Europe & USA have taken no objection certificate from DG: Doordarshan to downlink Doordarshan International signals in footprint coverages of countries of PAS-4 and PAS-1. Similar requests from agencies in London, Middle East and USA are also under consideration.

(c) An expenditure of Rs. 6.48 crore has been incurred on the lease of transponders for Doordarshan International during 1996 and the gross revenue generated was Rs. 85.33 lakh during the year 1996.

(d) No, Sir. Because Doordarshan is a public broadcaster.

Committee set-up to review PRB Act, 1867

2528. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee was set up to review the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867;

(b) if so, when it submitted its report and what are its recommendations;

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to implement its report; and

(d) by when will the report be fully implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Special Review Group submitted its report to the Government in December, 1994. It has made a total of 35 recommendations for facilitating registration of newspapers and simplifying the procedures prescribed under the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 (PRB Act). These pertain to definition of 'newspaper', title verification, filing of declaration for registration of newspapers, de-blocking of titles, registration of newspapers/periodicals, Annual Statement to be submitted by newspapers, submission of Annual Report by RNI to the Government, circulation verification and simplification of various forms.

(c) and (d) Based on the recommendations of the Group, Government propose to amend the PRB Act, 1867 by introducing a Bill after completion of various formalities such as consultation with the concerned Ministries, approval of the Cabinet etc. At this stage, it is not possible to indicate any timeframe in this regard.

दूरदर्शन में अस्थायी कर्मचारियों के पारिश्रमिक में वृद्धि

2529. **श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या दूरदर्शन महानिदेशालय ने दूरदर्शन के विभिन्न केन्द्रों/कार्यालयों में 10 दिन के नियत कार्य के आधार पर कार्यरत अस्थायी कर्मचारियों के पारिश्रमिक में हाल ही में वृद्धि की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या इसके परिणामस्वरूप दूरदर्शन समाचार विंग में 10 दिन के नियत कार्य के आधार पर कार्यरत अस्थायी आशुलिपिक सहायकों का पारिश्रमिक अस्थायी टंककों के पारिश्रमिक से कम हो गया है;

(घ) क्या सरकार को समाचार विंग से अस्थायी आशुलिपिकों के पारिश्रमिक को बढ़ाने हेतु कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में कोई अन्तरिम निर्णय कब तक लिया जायेगा?